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Important Introductory Remarks.

THE "Parabellum" Automatic Pistol answers in every respect the requirements of an up-to-date hand-weapon.

The shooter can, however, appreciate and fully avail himself of its valuable qualities only, when **thoroughly acquainted** with all the details, the manipulation and the effective use thereof.

It is therefore indispensable to the shooter, **before using the weapon** to master the description given in this book together with the instructions for handling it. This done, he will feel more confident in possessing a hand-weapon of unsurpassed efficiency which, in case of need, will stand him in good stead in attack as well as in defence.



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Principal Features.

THE "Parabellum" Automatic Pistol belongs to the recoil fire-arms with lock fixed whilst the projectile passes through the barrel. In this way no gases can escape; they maintain a uniform full effect upon the projectile, — a condition which alone assures that absolute reliable efficiency which for all purposes is essential, but indispensable in warfare.

The **Breech Mechanism** — the most important feature of a self-loader — corresponds in principle with that of the world-famous Maxim gun.

Its peculiarly constructed foggle-joint lever mechanism provides an absolutely secure safety lock, the prime necessity for a fire arm.

Like all modern weapons this pistol is provided with a non-protruding hammer it being a well-known fact that the hammer which cocks the weapon from outside by means of the thumb, as is the case with revolvers and sporting rifles, is the main cause of accidents through being caught, &c.

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In connection with the breech mechanism stands the **Safety-Sear** which is so arranged that firstly it blocks automatically whenever the weapon is not pressed by hand, and also, like all other safety arrangements, can be fixed or brought out of contact by a separate action.

The peculiar construction of the **cartridge extractor** allows to see and to feel from the outside whether or not a cartridge is in the barrel, an important advantage which no other arm has got in such a reliable manner.

Its **loading arrangement** gives a further advantage, to this pistol.

The use of closed stiff frames has the following advantages over stripping clips, viz: — in case of danger the attention is not taken off the adversary, the pistol can be loaded whilst on foot or on horseback, with stiff or gloved hands and in every position, leaving alone the fact that when the loose magazine is introduced and withdrawn from beneath the weapon the band is fully secure from being jammed or otherwise hurt by the mechanism.

As regards the calibers selected, 301" (7,65 mm.) and 354" (9 mm.), the automatic action of the pistol does not in any way depend on the size of the caliber but on the total energy which the bullet develops at firing and on the amount of recoil thus obtained. This energy may vary to a considerable extent, but its minimum should be sufficient to disable the enemy, that is, to render further fighting impossible on the part of the opposing soldier who is in full service uniform, protected by all sorts of equipments such as belts, cartridge pouch, buckles, metal buttons, fur coat, breastplate, &c., and perhaps under an additional cover of planks or brush-wood, or behind a closed door.

The smaller caliber has more penetrating effect, the larger one more spreading or stopping power.



Constituent parts.

THE parts of the pistol are grouped in two divisions: like the Maxim weapons, on which this one is based; one forming the part which moves at firing, consisting of barrel, mechanism and breech (fig. E, table I) the other one, with the case containing all the other apparatus which produces the automatic action, representing the fixed part.

It belongs to:

a. the moveable part:

1. Barrel with foresight (1¹) and bifurcated receiver (1¹¹).
2. Breech-block, in connection with
- (3). forward and
- (4). rear link of toggle-joint, with coupling link for recoil spring (4¹) and pin (4¹¹),
- (5). connecting pin between the breech-block and the forward link,

- (6). connecting pin between the forward and rearward link.
- 7. Hinge pin between the rear-link and the bifurcated receiver.
- (8). Rivet for connecting pin (6).
- 12. Firing pin.
- 13. Firing pin spring.
- 14. Breech-block end piece.
- 15. Cartridge extractor with spring (15¹) and pin (15²).
- 16. Cartridge ejector.
- 18. Trigger-bar with spring-stud (18¹), spring (18²) and rivet (18³).
- 19. Trigger-bar spring.

b. the fixed part:

- 11. Recoil spring with drawing rod (11¹), bell crank (11²) and pin (11³).
- 17. Stock with sling swivel (17¹) and breech-block catch-link rivet (17²).
- 20. Trigger with spring (20¹).
- 21. Trigger plate.
- (22). Trigger lever.

- (23). Trigger lever pin.
- 24. Locking-bolt.
- (25). Locking-bolt spring.
- 26. Breech-block catch-link with spring (26¹).
- 27. Cartridge holder catch.
- 28. Cartridge holder catch spring.
- 29. Automatic safety sear.
- 30. Automatic safety sear spring.
- 31. Safety-catch.
- 32. Pin for same.
- 33. Butt side-pieces, of wood.
- 34. Screws for same.

Furthermore:

The Cartridge holder consisting of the following parts (and which may be taken to pieces)

- a. Sheet metal frame.
- b. Cartridge-feeder spring.
- c. Cartridge-feeder or carrier.
- 35. { d. Cartridge-feeder pressure-knob.
- e. Cartridge-feeder guide-knob.
- f. Bottom piece.
- g. Connecting pin.

tridge from the front backwards underneath the overlapping lips of the cartridge holder, without forcing the latter asunder, and repeat this operation until the cartridge holder is filled; but in doing this, always draw down the guide-knob step by step so as to allow each time only sufficient space for one cartridge. In this way the strong spring will not needlessly recoil and the correct position of each cartridge is ensured.

The cartridge holder is emptied by removing the cartridges one by one, each time slightly drawing back the guide-knob and releasing it again. At this operation, as at all others, the guide-knob must not be allowed to spring up freely.

2. The insertion of the cartridge holder into the pistol. The right hand holds the pistol firmly, as in firing, whilst the left hand pushes the cartridge holder, with the points of the cartridges turned towards the muzzle, upwards into the pistol until the catch (27) snaps into its seat (u); this is easily done by a slight tap with the left hand upon the bottom of the cartridge holder.

To withdraw the cartridge holder, the pistol remains in the right hand, and is by the same hand turned a little to the left so that, as shown



Fig. 2.

in illustration 2, the thumb of the right hand can press the catch (27); simultaneously the cartridge holder is either withdrawn with the left hand by the bottom piece, or, in case of urgency, simply allowed to drop out so that the left hand can insert another one immediately.

3. Loading the barrel. Hold the pistol firmly by grasping the butt with the right hand (whilst doing this, as in firing, the safety sear (29) must be pressed in) the first finger stretched out on the right side of the trigger guard, the

Fig. 3.



barrel pointed horizontally forward, the breech-block toward the left, grasp firmly (see fig. 3) the two cheeks of the toggle-joint with the

thumb and the first finger of the left hand (not merely hooking the fingers into them) pull first upwards and then tangentially back until the face of the breech-block stands behind the uppermost cartridge in the magazine; then let it spring forward abruptly. (If the links of the toggle-joint are not completely extended thereby, this will be effected by a gentle pressure of the hand.)

Now the top cartridge is transferred from the magazine into the barrel, the firing pin is cocked and the weapon is ready for firing (fig. J).

Single loading, without using a cartridge holder, is performed, grasping the pistol with



Fig. 4.

the right hand in the manner described before. The right hand grasps the pistol, the left draws the toggle-joint completely to the rear, the first finger holds the left check of the toggle-joint tightly, the thumb leans backward against the sling swivel, the middle finger against the edge of the trigger plate (see fig. 4), thereby, keeping the breech open, whilst the right hand inserts the cartridge into the barrel, which is easily done with a little practice, and closing the breech by straightening out the toggle-joint.

If a full cartridge holder is inserted, whilst the barrel is loaded, nine shots can be fired without interruption.

Unloading. Withdraw the cartridge holder, if such be in the weapon, draw the breech carefully back to prevent the loaded cartridge from falling to the ground but let it drop through the handle into the open palm.

4. Firing. The position of the pistol as shown in fig. 5 guarantees a splendid percentage of hits, because the hand is almost in exact prolongation of the axis of the piece; if held loosely or too low down as shown in fig. 6 the resistance to recoil is insufficient and the efficiency will be much impaired.



Fig. 5.
Right manner to hold the pistol.

Therefore hold the pistol firmly pointed at the target so that the automatic safety sear (29) projecting from the rear of the stock is pressed in. To fire the pistol, pull the trigger (20) and release it again as long as the cartridges



Fig. 6.
Manner in which the pistol shall not be held.

last. When firing slowly it is advisable to use the touching point of the trigger.

The pressure from the first or from the middle finger upon the trigger is transferred upon the front portion of the trigger-bar - the spring-stud (18¹) - by means of the lever attached to the plate. This pressure acts upon the lower arm of the trigger-lever and by a still further pressure being put upon the trigger the firing pin retaining catch (n¹) becomes detached from the trigger-bar seat (n¹¹). The firing pin, propelled by its spring, fires the cartridge.

5. Automatic action of the mechanism in firing.

On firing the pistol the moveable part (table 1, fig. E) recoils in the grooves of the fixed stock.

The joint remains straight, and the breech perfectly closed whilst the bullet runs up the barrel.

During the continued recoil the link cheeks (c^r) meet the corresponding curves (C^x) of

the side plates at the stock. The connecting pin (6) rises above the connecting pins (5 and 7). Whilst the barrel with the bifurcated receiver (1¹¹) returns only as far as the catch (r), in the stock, the energy during the recoil raises the toggle-joint until the recoil-spring (11) is completely compressed and the breech-block (2) reaches its rearmost position (Table II fig. L). The spent cartridge, drawn out of the barrel by the extractor (15), strikes against the ejector (16) (which intercepts it), and is thrown out; the firing pin (12) is by means of the cocking piece (n) of the forward link (3) of the toggle-joint drawn back at the retaining catch (n¹) and the firing pin spring is compressed.

The recoil spring (11), cocked but not kept back in cocked position, propels the breech-block by means of its drawing rod (11¹) the bell crank (11¹¹) and the coupling link (4¹) which hangs on the rear link (4); this movement is transferred upon barrel and bifurcated receiver which run forward till the catch (r) meets the locking bolt (24); the toggle-joint straightens. Simultaneously the top cartridge is lifted in front of the breech by the feeder

spring (35^b) and inserted from the magazine into the barrel, the firing pin retaining catch (n¹) is caught by the trigger bar and the firing pin is cocked (Fig. H).

The breech is fixed again. — In shooting it is secured absolutely in this position by the middle pin (6) tying a little below the line connecting the outer pins (5 and 7) when the toggle links are straightened. Thus the action of the powder gases presses the middle joint down against the bifurcated receiver (1¹¹) contrary to the opening direction, at the same time the pin (7) connecting the rear link (4) to the receiver takes up the longitudinal pressure (Fig. I).

After firing, the trigger must be immediately released by pushing the finger forward; so that the spring stud (18¹) which during the preceding movement was leaning against the upper arm of the trigger lever (22) can again go forward and effect the next firing. This is very important.

The pistol is now automatically reloaded, locked, cocked and ready for firing. Therefore, take care!

After the last shot (i. e., when the cartridge holder is empty) the guide-knob (35^e) acts upon the breech-block catch link (26), whose tooth presses into the retaining catch (c) of the breech; the breech remains open, the toggle-joint erect and the line of sight obstructed (fig. D, table I).

The recoil spring keeps the joint raised even after the removal of the cartridge holder and leaves the open breech resting on the catch link. This latter is pressed into its seat by its own spring (26¹) as soon as the joint is withdrawn.

After the empty cartridge holder has been removed the breech is left open if it is to be reloaded.

After inserting a new (full) cartridge holder, draw the toggle-joint check slightly back with your hand and let it spring forward; and the weapon will again be ready for firing.

The breech, if open after the cartridge holder has been emptied or after an empty one has been inserted, cannot be closed until the magazine has been entirely or anyhow partly extracted.

The Safety gear works in the following manner: The safety lever (29) by action of its spring (30) automatically goes with the upper end (S) upwards over the rear end of the trigger bar (f8) and in this position positively prevents both the bifurcated receiver from going back and the firing pin (12) which is always cocked when the pistol is loaded from being tripped. Only by firmly holding the stock and pressing the lower shoulder (S^o) against the action of its spring the upper end (S) is disengaged and the moveable parts are free to act.

The action of the safety catch (31) is simply that the hook of its lower arm (Sⁱⁱ) extending to the inside stands according to its position either in front of (fig. A) or beside (fig. C) the catch (Sⁱ) of the safety lever (29) and thereby prevents or allows the movements of the lever.

In case the automatic action is inconvenient for small hands the stud of the safety lever (29) is placed in front of instead of behind the spring (30), between the latter and the intermediate wall of the stock (17). By doing this the safety mechanism does not work

automatically, the pistol, like other constructions, can be locked by the safety catch (31) only, working then positively. In both cases the user of the pistol when grasping the stock is shown by the safety shoulder either yielding or standing locked whether or not his arm is ready for firing.

♦ ♦

Cleaning.

WITH this pistol as with all other weapons where smokeless powder is used, the greatest attention must be bestowed on the barrel; therefore the barrel should be cleaned as soon as possible after the pistol has been used. If there is no time to do this at once thoroughly, then the bore should anyhow be well greased, for which purpose thick grease must always be ready in the grease box of the cleaning rod, and the final cleaning and removal of the grease should take place at the earliest opportunity. To this end insert an empty cartridge holder, open the breech, with the toggle-joint raised, and draw a greasy rag or cotton waste repeatedly from the muzzle end through the barrel until all dirt is removed. To keep all rust out it must be cleaned once in a while from the rear. Any little dirt spots in the breech mechanism may be removed from the top. But if the weapon should have seen hard wear and fouling, or disarrangements appear in

the mechanism, it should be taken to pieces, where necessary cleaned, lubricated on all working surfaces (preferably with pure vaseline) and properly put together again.

The cartridge holder as well must be kept clean. The spring is compressed and greasy rags over the cleaning rod passed down the interior.



Dismantling and Assembling.

a) for ordinary use.

Dismantling.

1. *Separate the moveable part from the fixed portion.*

First take out the cartridge holder and discharge the barrel cautiously, then release the firing pin. After this the palm of the right hand presses forward the shoulder



Fig. 7.

of the safety sear, the fingers grasp the toggle-joints and pull them back (see fig. 7), the left hand helps to shove back the barrel until the link cheeks touch the cam, retain it there by

the right hand, the left hand thumb turns downward the locking bolt lever (24), let the recoiling portion slide forward so that the trigger plate (21) rises and can be lifted off, next push the barrel with the breech mechanism (i. e., the moveable part of the pistol) forward and remove it from the handle i. e., the fixed portion.

2. *Separate breech mechanism from bifurcated receiver.*

Withdraw the hinge pin (7) from right to left, after releasing the firing pin by a pressure upon the front part of the trigger bar (18), then lift the toggle-joint cheeks and withdraw the breech-block.

3. *Remove the firing pin from the breech.*

Hold the breech tightly (see fig. 8) with the toggle-joint as straight as possible, use the first finger of the right hand (or a small screw driver) and press the breech-block end piece (14) firmly inward so as to compress the firing pin spring, turn quickly to the left, thus getting its shoulder out of the groove, and let the bottom pin, yielding to the pressure of the spring, slowly glide out. Remove firing pin and spring.

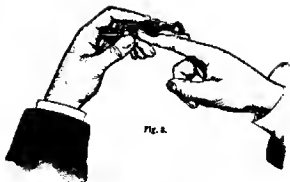


Fig. 8.

Assembling.

This is effected in the reverse order of dismantling:

1. Insert the firing pin into the breech-block.

First put firing pin and spring into position, then place the end piece with its shoulder in the slot in the breech-block, whilst compressing the spring (the parts to be held and moved as shown in fig. 8) turn quickly to the right until the shoulder or catch recedes through the transverse groove into the axial notch until the line stands vertically. It is very important to attend to this.

2. Connect breech-block with bifurcated receiver.
Turn the lower sides of the parts upwards towards your face (see fig. 9), lay the guide



Fig. 9.

lillets into the grooves carefully and whilst pressing down the front of the trigger-bar (in

order that the breech-block with the firing pin point can be freely pushed forward) turn the whole lot round, then insert the hinge pin (7) from the left, thus joining the parts (fig. E) which move in firing. To ensure proper position for fixing the hinge pin the surfaces (c¹ et e¹¹) behind the link cheeks must meet correctly.

3. Join the moveable parts to the fixed portion.

Hold the former i. e., the barrel with the breech mechanism in the left hand horizontally, the fore-sight downwards, the coupling link to

Fig. 10.



the rear, the firing pin always uncocked. Slide the stock carefully with the right hand on to the bifurcated receiver (fig. 10). Turn the whole (the handle passing the chest and downward to the left), then bring the barrel with the breech mechanism back again until the coupling link



Fig. 11.

(see fig. 11) can fall into its place in front of the hooks of the recoil spring bell crank with which the breech mechanism engages, when pressed back.

There is yet another way of joining the barrel and the breech mechanism to the stock which after some practice is performed more quickly. Whilst barrel and mechanism are held in the left hand, the lower side of the parts remains at first, with the coupling link pointing backward, turned towards the chest, then the

stock; its lower opening also turned towards the chest, is pushed over the bifurcated receiver until the coupling link falls in front of the hooks of the recoil spring bell crank as in fig. 11. Then the whole is held vertically so that, immediately the breech mechanism is pushed in, the link engages with these hooks.

Whether the main parts are joined in the former or the latter way, the pistol is now held as shown in fig. 7, the automatic safety sear is pressed in, the breech mechanism is pushed back, till it reaches the curved surfaces. It is then held tightly in its position, the trigger plate inserted, with the rearward projecting narrow fillet beneath the slot in the casing and the small part pointing towards the locking bolt lever (24); this lever is then turned upward.

Now repeatedly draw back and release the toggle-joint i. e., open and close the breech over and over again to make sure that the recoil spring is properly caught and works well. This has to be done every time the pistol has been assembled.



Further dismantling and assembling.

b) As far as it can be done without special tools.

Cartridge ejector (16). *To remove:* Barrel with bifurcated receiver is held in the left hand, the thumb nail or a screw-driver lifts the rear end of the ejector just sufficiently to cause its round shoulder to leave its socket, and lodge against the edge, the first finger presses from the inside against the catch which projects into the bifurcated receiver (11). The ejector jumps out, to intercept it place the thumb over it.

Another way of removing the ejector is by simultaneously raising with the thumb nail of the right hand or with a screw-driver the rear end and pressing the catch outward with the first finger of the left hand.

In no case force is to be used.

(This part is only removed to prevent any cotton waste from lodging between the parts when cleaning the barrel from the rear.)

To insert: Fit the part exactly over the corresponding openings of the receiver and

press down slightly on the centre and rear shoulder. No force to be used.

Trigger-bar (18). *To remove:* Slightly lift the trigger-bar spring (19) by inserting the thumb nail beneath the upturned part and slide it straight forward. Before doing this, press in the front of the trigger-bar so as to lift the spring. Turn the bifurcated receiver to the left and the bar will drop out. If necessary strike the pistol upon the palm of the hand.

To assemble: Insert the trigger bar in its place, the pin pointing forward; lay the spring into its groove and push straight in whilst slightly pressing down the center.

Extractor (15). *To remove:* Shove out the pin by means of the punch (III) until the rear part of the extractor is lifted by its spring, take out the extractor in a forward and the spring in an upward direction.

To insert: First put the spring in place correctly, then from the front push back the extractor along the stroke stops into the breech block, press it down, fasten it in its place by the pin and make sure of its moving freely. (When shooting frequently do this from time to time.)

Breech bolt catch link (26). *To remove:* Whilst gently pressing with the first finger of the right or the thumb of the left hand against the adjacent side of the casing lift it, but no more than it was originally inserted and push straight back.

To insert it, hold the adjusting piece with the thumb and first finger of the right hand so that the middle finger presses the spring from the top. Press the point of the spring down into the slanting notch in the handle and push the link in, in a forward direction whilst the hook rests underneath the pin. If wrongly inserted, turn the stock over and the link falls out.

Trigger (20). *To remove it,* compress the spiral spring by a slight counter pressure and lift out horizontally.

To insert it, push in the spiral spring (with the wire always pointing backward, never sideways) holding it compressed against the slanting part of the casing.

Locking bolt (24). *To remove it,* take hold of it by the lever, give it an upward pressure and pull out in a straight line, *to insert it,* till the lever and press it in.

Automatic safety sear. *To remove it*, unscrew and lift off the left side piece of the butt; press the automatic safety sear (29) against its spring, hold it in its position, lift out the lower end with the stud or catch and pull out the piece downward, without using force.

To insert it, push it underneath the safety catch (31) upwards from the left to the right, lift up the stud and drop it into its seat. Whilst this is being done, care must be taken, that the shoulder or projection working the spring does not lodge between the spring and the partition in the stock, but stands behind the spring.

Safety catch. *To remove it*, push out the pin (32) which holds the lever in the stock by means of a punch, in doing which the lower arm should be turned downwards. Then simply remove the catch.

To insert it, place the part in its right position chequered button upwards, press the upper arm of the lever and insert completely.

Further **dismantling** especially of the rivetted parts is hardly ever necessary and should be left to an expert.

The **cartridge holder** (35) should not be taken to pieces except in special cases. The

pin holding the lower part, is withdrawn, the spring taken out and the cartridge holder can be cleaned from underneath. The platform cannot be removed, being rivetted to the cartridge feeder guide-knobs (e), and therefore inseparable from the sheet metal frame.



Tools and their use.

THE Cleaning Rod made of brass so as not to damage the bore, is used solely for cleaning this bore. Its handle forms a box with screwed lid for the grease (vaseline) to be used at the end of firing.

The Screwdriver is used for loosening or tightening the screws of the butt side pieces, the only screws in the weapon, and, if necessary, when removing or inserting the firing pin and the cartridge ejector; furthermore the handle part with the hole in it serves to fill quickly and easily the cartridge holder at continuous firing, being pressed down over the cartridge feeder guide-knob so that the bend projects beneath on the right side and can be drawn off with the thumb when the cartridges are being inserted.

The Driving punch is used to remove the extractor pin, the automatic safety sear spring and the safety catch pin.



Final Remarks.

THE automatic pistol "Parabellum", since 1900 used all over the world in great numbers, has proved in practical use to be most reliable in every respect as ordnance and sporting arm.

That this pistol perfectly answers all the requirements is proved sufficiently by the fact, that after very careful trials made for years comparatively together with different other known types and after practical military service trials in Germany, Switzerland, Bulgaria and Portugal, it has been accepted as ordnance small arm. In other countries as f. e. U. S. of America, Brazil, Chili, Holland and Russia, large numbers have been bought for the troops.

Just as excellent is it as target pistol: For this purpose employing reduced powder charges and round lead bullets it can be used most successfully as single loader at all shooting places. This is of great value to sportsmen indulging in all sorts of pistol firing.



Dimensions and Efficiency

of the pistols caliber .301" and .354"
(7.65 mm.) (9 mm.)

I. The Weapon.

Length of pistol (in center line)	9.25 inch.	8.55 inch.
Height " " " "	5.32 "	5.32 "
Distance between sights	8.38 "	7.72 "
Length of barrel	4.73 "	4.02 "
" " rifling (right hand twist)	9.84 "	9.84 "
Depth of rifling grooves	.005 "	.005 "
Width " " " "	.122 "	.098 "
Number of rifling	4	6
Weight " pistol	lb. oz. 1. 13.4	lb. oz. 1. 13.4
" " cartridge holder	1.93	1.93

II. The Ammunition.

Length of cartridge, complete	1.173 inch.	1.142 inch.
Weight " " "	162 grs.	193 grs.
" " smokeless powder charge	5.4 "	5.4 "
Weight of projectile (hard lead core with full or half case of sheet steel coppered and nickel plated)	92.6 "	123.4 "

III. Efficiency.

Velocity of projectile V ^m	1150 feet (350 m.)	1020 feet (310 m.)
Working effect*)	271 foot pounds (37.46 mkg. and 39.18 mkg.)	283 foot pounds

*) Concerning this note the bottom lines on page 6.

Caliber	.301" and .354" (7.65 mm.) (9 mm.)
Maximum range	1950 yds. 1600 yds.
with an angle of elevation equal to about	27° 30' 30° 30'
Penetration of bullet*)	
(50 yds. from the muzzle)	
in pine	6.3" 5.5"
" beech	2.76" 2."
Spread at 50 yds.	{ height . 3.9" 4.6" width . 2.5" 3.2"
" " 100 yds.	{ height . 9.2" 11." width . 6.4" 7.8"
" " 200 yds.	{ height . 24." 28.5" width . 18.5" 23."
Velocity of aimless quick firing, cartridge holders kept at hand, per minute	about 100 rounds
Time for reloading pistol after cartridge holder is emptied, about	5 seconds



*) Concerning this note the bottom lines on page 6.